

**Motivational Incentives for
Enhanced Drug Abuse Recovery
(MIEDAR)**

What are the Study Objectives?

- **To enhance motivation for abstinence**
- **To see if incentives improve standard care treatment outcomes**
 - **Retention**
 - **Participation**
 - **Abstinence**

What the Study Does Not Do

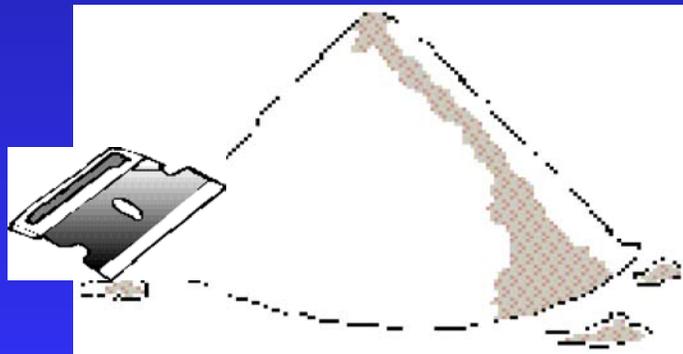
Interfere with patients receiving treatment

Reduce the importance of individual and group therapy

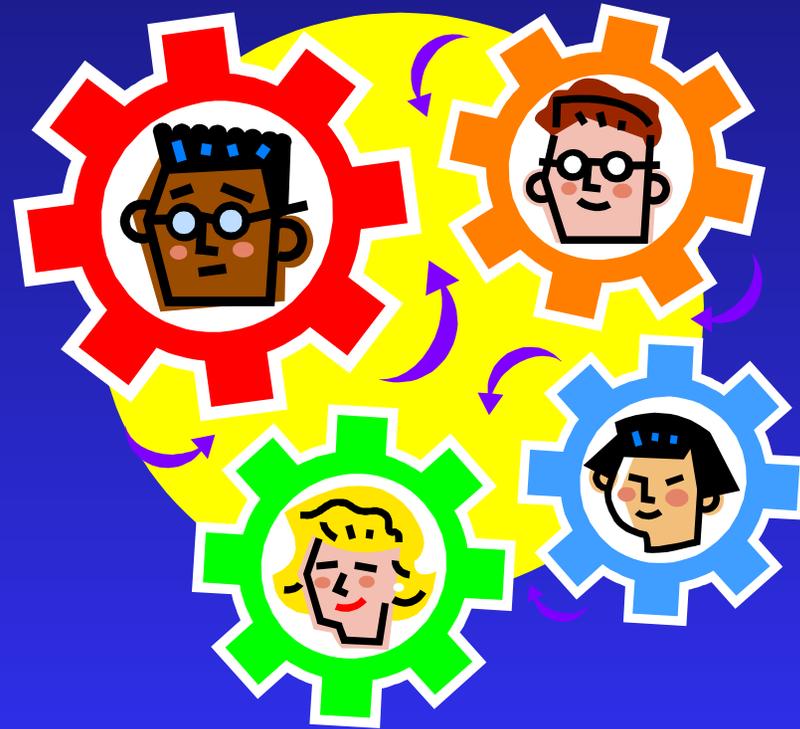
Change any part of standard care services

Who is Eligible?

Cocaine, Amphetamine, and
Methamphetamine Abusers



How Does This Protocol Work?

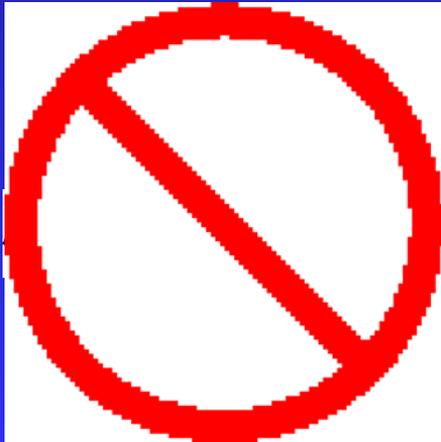


MIEDAR SUMMARY

- **3 month study**
- **Twice a week visits**
- **Urine and Breath samples**
- **Incentive and Non-incentive**

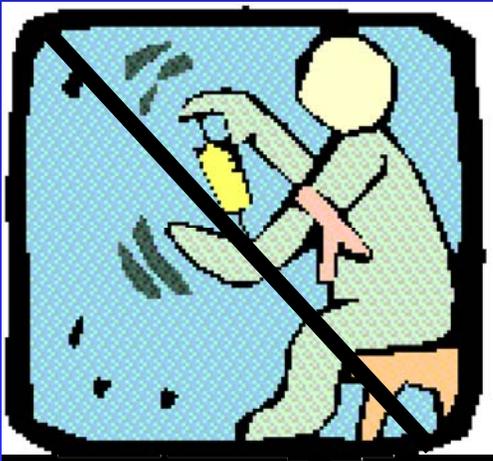
Primary Target Drugs

- Cocaine
- Methamphetamine
- Amphetamines
- Alcohol



Secondary Target Drugs

- Opiates
- Marijuana



Examples of Incentive Prizes

SMALL

(\$1-\$5 items)



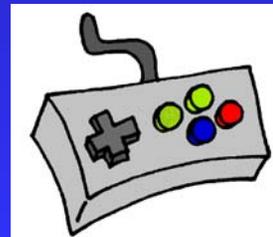
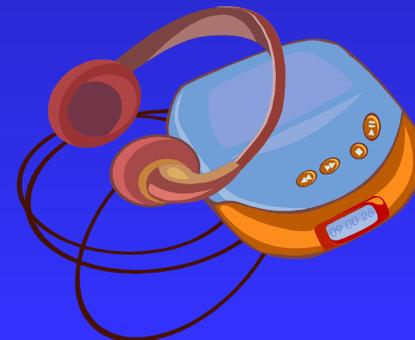
LARGE

(\$20 items)

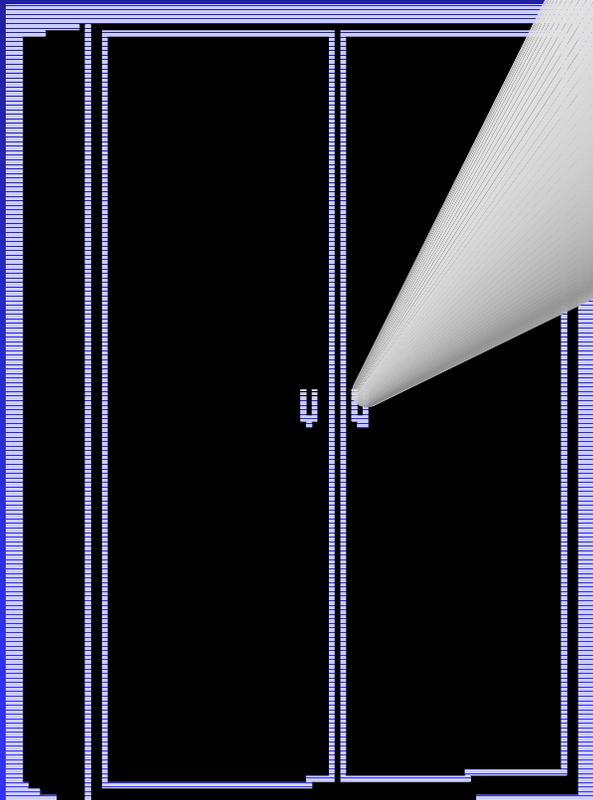


JUMBO

(\$80-\$100 items)



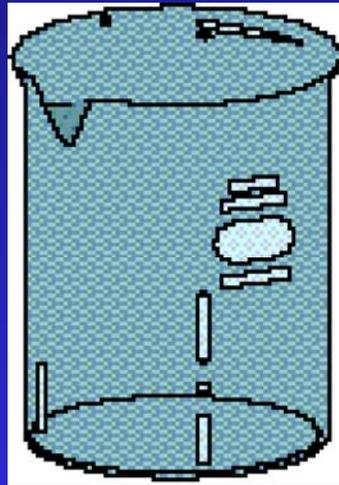
Prize Cabinets



**The Actual prizes used as
incentives are up to the Clients
and Staff...**



Sample Collection Twice Weekly



Variable Ratio Schedule

Chance Basis of Winning

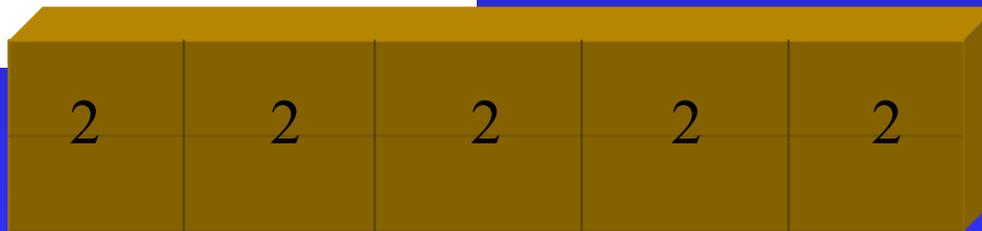
<u>Magnitude</u>	<u>Probability</u>
No Prize/Good Job	50/50
Small Prize	High
Large Prize	Moderate
Jumbo Prize	Low



Draws Escalate with Drug Free Test Results



Bonus Draws for Marijuana and/or Opiate Abstinence



Draws

Weeks Drug Free

What this means for clients participating in this study

- The longer you stay abstinent the more draws (and prizes) you get.
- The client that stays completely drug free gets 204 draws in 12 weeks and over 100 prizes!

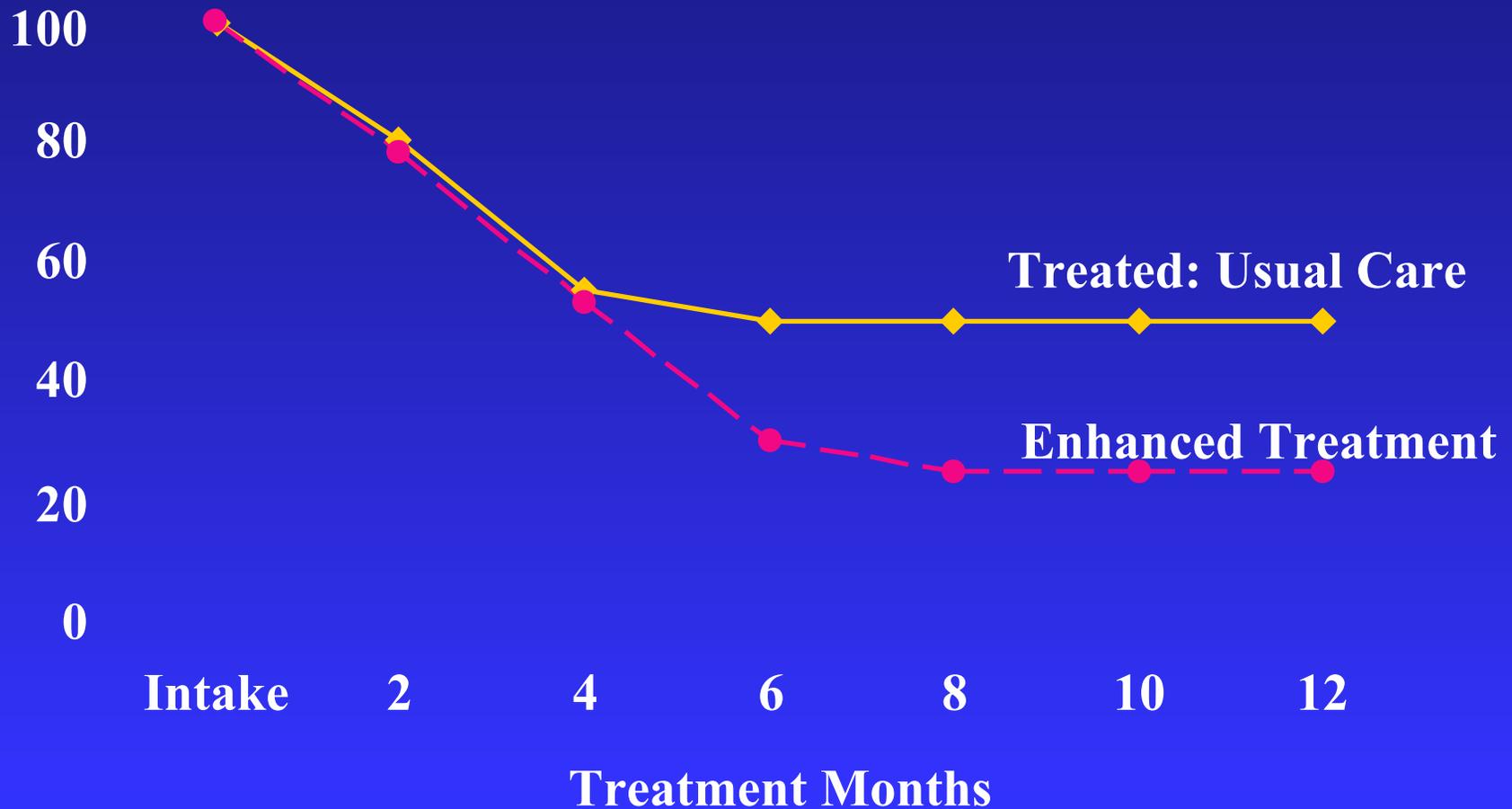


Anticipated Benefits of Incentives

- **Better retention**
- **More abstinence**
- **More time to work on other treatment issues**

Need for Comparison Group

Percent Positive Urines Over Time



How this works at the community programs



Team Effort

Who runs the study on site?

The Role of the Research Assistant

- **Recruit and consent participants**
- **Collect and test study urines**
- **Coordinate prize draws**
- **Schedule and perform follow-ups**
- **Interact with clients**



Role of the Counselor

- Support participation
- Answer client questions
- Attend prize draws
- Suggest prizes
- Network/communicate with RA



How do we expect this to benefit
the counselors and the clients?

Implementation of MIEDAR at LESC

Lower Eastside Service Center

- A tradition of innovation and clinical experimentation
- One of the earliest methadone clinics
- Agent Orange/VA treatment program
- Methadone Residential Programs
- Methadone-to-Abstinence Program
- Pregnant Mother Residence and Nursery
- Thrift Shop -- patients as employees
- Onsite TB Programs
- Innovative HIV Programs
- Comprehensive Outpatient Methadone Services
- Intensive Vocational Integrated Treatment (“Workfirst”)

Implementation Process at LESC

- Process of implementation
 - Acceptance (“buy-in”)
 - Goals/Time Line
 - Challenges
- General Observations
 - what worked
 - current status

Acceptance/“Buy In”

- Effect on Patients
- Effect on Staff
- Effect on Treatment Environment

Time Line/Clinic Issues

- Introduction of concept to staff
- Staff training
- Physical Plant Issues
- Staff issues/needs
- Patient issues/needs
- New policy or procedures?

Challenges

- Setting up a trial in a community treatment setting
- Philosophic debate -- innovation versus “trusted approaches”
- Anxiety about providing “incentives” to substance abusers
- Staff concerns about impact on job and on-going treatment of patients
- Research legacy issues

General Comments

- Teamwork -- this has gone well among the Research/Treatment leadership
- Communication -- this has gone well among the staff
- Staff as participant
- Data collection is currently in progress